25X1

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2005/06/13 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100070055-1

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

PRECEDENCE	COI	ACP	TOG	TPE	MRO	TRI	PAGES
SCM	0	0	0	0	0	0	

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR: CIA \ OCI \ WH12

DATE-TIME GROUP: 74071 7

CITE: CIA/WNSS

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER: (4)

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
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ITEM NO: 4 DATE: 17 JUL 74

SUBJECT: ARRESTS IN ERITREA

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THE SERIES OF ARRESTS BY THE MILITARY OF HIGH RANKING OFFICIALS, UNTIL RECENTLY CENTERED IN ADDIS ABABA, HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO ERITREA PROVINCE. THE ASMARA-BASED ARMED FORCES COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH TODAY ARRESTED ~~FIVE~~ OFFICIALS IN THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL, OFFICIALS INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND VICE GOVERNOR GENERAL. THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE WAS FORMED TO DIRECT MILITARY ACTIVITIES AGAINST OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF CORRUPTION AND INCOMPETENCE. THE ASMARA COMMITTEE IS ACTING IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITS COUNTERPART IN ADDIS ABABA, BUT IT EXERCISES A GREAT DEAL OF AUTONOMEY.

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

State Department review completed

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RELEASING OFFICER | COORDINATING OFFICERS | AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

FORM 4-73 4C PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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ROUTING

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THE ARRESTS IN ASMARA ARE A FURTHER SIGN THAT THE MILITARY HAS ALMOST COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE COUNTRY. SELECTIONS FOR REPLACEMENTS OF THE OUSTED OFFICIALS WILL PROVIDE SOME IDEA OF HOW FAR THE MILITARY IS WILLING TO GO IN MEETING THE ERITREANS' DESIRE FOR GREATER AUTHONOMY. [redacted]TARY TROOPS IN THE PROVINCE ARE MOSTLY NON-ERITREAN.

THE US CONSUL IN ASMARA REPORTS THAT THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT IS PLANNING SOME KIND OF ACTION IN THE CITY TONIGHT. WE HAVE NO OTHER REPORTING ON THIS. [redacted] 25X1

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: W EUR DIV, NIO [redacted] 25X1

4
3
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[redacted]

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